- Restrictions have been imposed on entry of seconds and defectives through a few designated ports only;
- An additional duty of 10% has been imposed on the import of seconds variety of HR Coils;
- Pre-shipment inspection certification has been made mandatory for imports of seconds and defectives of all steel items; and
- Budget for 2002-2003 has proposed certain steps to further reduce import of seconds and defectives.

Restructuring of SAIL

*39. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited is being restructured through formation of two strategic business units, based on product profile; and

(b) whether the Central Marketing Organisation of SAIL is also being bifurcated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As part of various tasks undertaken under the Financial and Business Restructuring of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Central Marketing Organisation of SAIL has already been internally re-organised into "Longs" and "Flats" for over a year to improve marketing efficiency.

Productivity of Coconut Cultivations in Kerala

*40. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Kerala Government has submitted a proposal for improving the productivity of coconut cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to help the coconut farmers; and

(d) the details regarding the Coconut Mission project submitted by the Kerala Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. No separate proposal for improving the productivity of coconut cultivation has been submitted.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to help coconut farmers are given below:-

(i) For increasing production and productivity of coconut, product diversification and by-product utilization, the Coconut Development Board is implementing Central Sector Scheme on integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India during 9th Plan with an allocation of Rs.174.00 crore. The component programmes are given below:

- Production and distribution of planting material.
- Expansion of area under coconut.
- Integrated farming for productivity improvement.
- Technology Demonstration.
- Market promotion and statistics.
- Information and information technology
- Human Resource Development.

(ii) Government of India sanctioned an amount of Rs.53.24 crore exclusively for control of coconut mite in Keral, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh during the period 1998-99 to 2000-2001. For research work on coconut mite an amount of Rs.104.25 lakh has been provided under the National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP). Assistance of Rs.5.15 crore was also provided to Government of Andhra Pradesh for coconut trees affected by cyclone in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh.

iii) Government of India fixed minimum support price of milling copra and ball copra at Rs.3300/Qtl. and Rs.3550/Qtl. respectively for 2001 season. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) procured 2.35 lakh M.T. of Copra during 2000 season under Price Support Scheme and during the season 2001-2002 the procurement made is 42,728 M.T. (upto 21.2.2002).

(iv) Government of India has agreed to implement Central Sector Scheme for Technology Mission on Coconut during 2001-2002 as part of the 9th Plan in all the coconut producing States through Coconut Development Board. The scheme proposes to establish convergence and synergy among numerous ongoing Government programmes in the field of coconut development and research in order to bring in vertical and horizontal integration of the existing programmes, bridge the gaps through appropriate new programmes and to ensure adequate, appropriate, timely and concurrent attention to all the links in production, processing, product diversification etc. The scheme for Technology Mission on coconut envisages to address issues relating to technology development, demonstration and adoption in the field of insect/pest and disease management; processing and product diversification; and market research and promotion. The Coconut Development Board has already initiated preliminary necessary action and released the "Operational Guidelines" to implement the scheme.

(d) Government of Kerala submitted a Project Profile on Coconut Technology Mission in Kerala at a total cost of Rs.992.74 crore for a period of five years. Details of the six Mini Missions proposed under the project are given below:—

(Rupees in crore)

Mini Mission		Total Cost
Mini Mission-I Production	—	896.34
Mini Mission-II Product Diversification	—	44.76
Mini Mission - III Extension & Human Resource Development	—	1.75
Mini Mission - IV Storage	—	40.09
Mini Mission - V Marketing	—	7.30
Mini Mission - VI Research and Development	—	2.50
Total		**992.74**

The proposed funding of the project cost is as follows:—

(Rupees in crore)

Source		Share of Project cost
1	2	
1. Government of India	—	501.44
2. Government of Kerala	—	5.83
3. Local Body	—	41.25
4. Promoter's share	—	139.75
5. Loans	—	304.47
Total	—	**992.74**

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Upgrading the quality of foodgrains

156. SHRI MANMOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the various surplus crops which were available for exports during the last year;

(b) whether it is a fact that Indian foodgrains are graded as substandard in the international market;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken so far, for producing quality foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cattle population in Orissa

157. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Orissa has lost a huge cattle population due to three consecutive natural calamities;